



# *The United States Navy Band* **COMMODORES**

## **PROFILE**

The Navy's premier jazz ensemble, the Commodores, presents the finest in America's true classical music. A specialty unit of The United States Navy Band in Washington, D.C., the group features 18 of the Navy's top jazz and "big band" musicians.

Under the direction of Chief Musician Randy D. Mattson, the Commodores combine the best of jazz and popular music. Many of the members compose and arrange music for the group in styles ranging from the traditional sounds of the swing era to contemporary music.

In 2003, the Commodores were featured at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the International Association for Jazz Education in Toronto, Canada. In 2002, the Commodores performed at the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual International Band and Orchestra Conference of The Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Ill. The group performed at Hunter College in New York City and Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn, N.Y. in conjunction with the International Naval Review 2000. They celebrated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1998 in Ireland performing for thousands of Dubliners at two public concerts, and a special performance at the U.S. Ambassador's residence. The group has also performed at the Elkhart (Ind.) Jazz Festival, Montreux Detroit Jazz Festival, and the famed Newport Jazz Festival in addition to touring Central and South America, Europe and the United States.

Bob Mintzer, James Moody, Eugene "Snooky" Young, Clark Terry, Louie Bellson, and Ray Charles are a few of the artists who have appeared with the band. In 1998, jazz vibraphonist Terry Gibbs performed with the group at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Anaheim, Calif. The group also performed with trumpet virtuoso Arturo Sandoval at the 1997 Walt Disney World Jazz Festival in Orlando, Fla.

The group's latest compact disc entitled, "Commodores Live!" was released in the summer of 2002. The band was featured on the Department of Interior's 1993 Memorial Day Radio Program "Flying Home: A Commemoration of the Swing Music of World War II," airing on over 1,100 stations nationwide. Other recordings by the Commodores include the popular "Sessions on M Street, S.E." CD (1998), "Here and Now" CD (1996), "Some Bop" (1988) and "Full Swing Ahead" (1982).